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Protecting, Preventing, Providing

Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

Colonel William Pallozzi
Superintendent

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Military Members Recognized During MSP Promotional Ceremony

(TIMONIUM, MD) — During a combined promotion and Freedom Award ceremony Nov. 13, Maryland State Police Superintendent Colonel William Pallozzi presented the Department's Freedom Award to 17 troopers and two civilian employees, all of whom serve or have served in the United States Armed Forces.

The troopers were members of Class 148 and Class 149, the last two Maryland State Police Academy graduating classes. The two civilian employees have recently joined the Maryland State Police.

The Maryland State Police established the Freedom Award to acknowledge each member of the

Maryland State Police who served in the military or is currently serving as a member of the National Guard or Reserves. There are 419 military veterans, including Colonel Pallozzi, currently serving in the Maryland State Police.

Of those, 73 are active members of the National Guard or Reserves. Nine of those personnel are currently deployed on active duty around the world.

Since the terrorist attacks on 9/11, at least one member of the Maryland State Police has been continually deployed on military duty in the war on terror.



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PHOTOS: Freedom Awards Ceremony





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Troopers Among Those Honored For Efforts To Combat Impaired Driving In Maryland

A trooper with the Maryland State Police Princess Anne Barrack was among those recently recognized during an awards ceremony for their work to combat impaired driving in the state.

Trooper First Class Daniel J. Townsend, was awarded the Officer Noah Leotta Memorial Award during the 18th annual Impaired Driving Law Enforcement Awards ceremony held in Ocean City, Maryland.

TFC Townsend is the fourth recipient of this special award, named after Officer Noah Leotta of the Montgomery County Police Department. Officer Leotta was struck and killed by a drunk driver in December 2015. Officer Leotta had been working a special DUI assignment the night of the crash.

The annual Impaired Driving Law Enforcement Awards, a joint effort of the MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration's Highway Safety Office and the Washington Regional Alcohol Program, honor officers dedicated to eliminating impaired driving crashes, injuries and deaths. The awards ceremony recognized officers for DUI enforcement – including seven who made more than 100 arrests last year – and also thanked those who serve as a Drug Recognition Expert.



Dozens of troopers were recently honored during the 18th annual Impaired Driving Law Enforcement Awards ceremony, held in Ocean City, Maryland.

TFC Townsend graduated from the Maryland State Police Academy in April 2016 and was immediately assigned to the Princess Anne Barrack. Since his assignment, TFC Townsend has excelled in the area of impaired driving enforcement.

With a total of 108 impaired driving arrests throughout his short career, TFC Townsend has been one of the most productive troopers at the barrack in terms of combatting impaired driving. Every year since 2017, TFC Townsend has led the Princess Anne Barrack in impaired driving arrests.

Outside of his Maryland State Police duties, TFC Townsend enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2005 and continues to serve as a member of the National Guard, holding the rank of staff sergeant.

Even in that role, he has worked to take impaired drivers off the street.

Most recently, TFC Townsend attended the required training to become a certified Drug Recognition Expert in Maryland.

Along with TFC Townsend, dozens of troopers were also recognized for their efforts to combat impaired driving in Maryland in 2018.

Also recognized was TFC Gregory Bunker as one of those honored with a Drug Recognition Expert Award. These awards were presented to the top officers as recognition for completing more than 15 drug recognition evaluations in 2018 in Maryland.



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Safety Tip of the Month

With so many transportation options available — from buses and taxis to rideshare and sedan services — there's no reason for anyone to be driving impaired this holiday season.

Designate a sober driver, have a cab company's number on hand or call a rideshare service. Whatever option you take, you are much more likely to get home safe without endangering yourself or anyone else on the road.

If you see someone driving under the influence, please call 911 immediately to report them. In the end, just drive sober or not at all.



Trooper Rescues Victim From Burning Vehicle After Crash

A state trooper helped rescue a victim from a burning vehicle early on Nov. 17 in Frederick County.

At about 2:15 a.m., troopers from the Maryland State Police Frederick Barrack were dispatched to the area of eastbound Interstate 70 at Braddock Mountain on a report of a single-vehicle crash. Cpl. David Wagoner was first on the scene and observed the vehicle overturned and on fire.

Cpl. Wagoner, who is assigned to the Rockville Barrack, observed a male passenger who was on fire in the vehicle. He was later identified as a 21-year-old man from Myersville, MD. Cpl. Wagoner used his fire extinguisher and successfully extinguished the flames on the man and then removed him from the vehicle.

The victim was transported by Maryland State Police helicopter to the University of Maryland Shock

Trauma Center in Baltimore for treatment of his injuries. Cpl. Wagoner was not injured.

The male driver of the vehicle was later identified as a 25-year-old man from Myersville, MD. He was transported to the Frederick Memorial Hospital for treatment of his injuries.

According to a preliminary investigation, the Toyota 4Runner was traveling east on Interstate 70 approaching Braddock Mountain when, for unknown reasons, the driver veered off the road and struck the guardrail on the right shoulder causing the vehicle to overturn. According to a preliminary investigation, alcohol has been determined to be a contributing factor in this crash.



IMPACT UPDATE



MSP Helicopter Hoists Patient From Cruise Ship In Queen Anne's County

(KENT ISLAND, MD) – A Maryland State Police Aviation Command helicopter crew hoisted a patient who was suffering from a medical emergency off of a cruise ship in Queen Anne's County.

At approximately 9:40 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 29, Maryland State Police received a request for assistance from the U.S. Coast Guard to hoist a patient suffering from a medical emergency aboard a cruise ship in the Chesapeake Bay. Maryland State Police Trooper 6, based in Easton, Maryland, was dispatched to the cruise ship Aida Luna's, which was located in the Chesapeake Bay south of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge near Kent Island.

The helicopter crew configured Trooper 6 for an aerial hoist operation and arrived overhead the cruise ship at approximately 10:25 p.m. The pilots maneuvered the AW-139 helicopter into position approximately 120 feet above the deck of the cruise ship and 220 feet above the water line. A State Police flight paramedic was lowered to the deck of the ship to rendezvous with the patient and prepare for extrication.

After the patient was assessed and placed into the secure hoisting device, both the patient and flight paramedic were hoisted up to the helicopter. Once the patient was secured inside the aircraft, Trooper 6 was able to transition to

its medevac role and transported the patient to the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore.

The Maryland State Police Aviation Command has served Maryland citizens since 1970, and operates a fleet of ten helicopters from seven bases throughout Maryland on a 24/7/365 basis. Missions include medevac, law enforcement, search & rescue, homeland security, and disaster assessment. The success of rescues performed by the Aviation Command depends a great deal on the cooperative efforts of local fire, rescue, EMS, law enforcement agencies, and our partners at the United States Coast Guard.



IMPACT UPDATE

MSP Arrests Three In \$425K Scrap Metal Scheme In Montgomery County

(ROCKVILLE, MD) – Maryland State Police arrested three men connected with the theft of more than \$400,000 in scrap metal over several months in Montgomery County.

The suspects, Anthony Coles, 51, of Edgewood, Maryland, Larry Beasley, 69, of Baltimore, Maryland, and Raymond Mason Jr., 31, of Baltimore, are charged with theft over \$100,000, theft scheme over \$100,000, conspiracy to commit a theft scheme and theft. Coles and Beasley were arrested on Nov. 5 and transported to the Montgomery County Detention Center.

Beasley was released on his own recognizance and Coles was released after posting \$15,000 bond. Mason was arrested Nov. 15 and was taken to the Montgomery County Detention Center pending a hearing with a court commissioner.

According to a preliminary investigation, the scrap metal theft occurred between March and May 2019. The victim, Atlantic Recycling Group, reported in June that they suspected that those associated with the company hired to transport the scrap metal from Rockville, Maryland to the Port of Baltimore, Bmore Transport, were stealing much of the metal prior to

delivery. The alleged theft was uncovered when Atlantic Recycling Group learned that the cargo containers were arriving at foreign destinations vastly underweight when compared with the original weighted totals. The estimated value of the missing scrap metal is \$425,000.

The Maryland Transportation Authority Police, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Homeland Security Investigations and the Montgomery County Police Department assisted with this investigation.

Troopers Work To Keep Roads Safe Over Thanksgiving

(PIKESVILLE, MD) – Maryland State Police had additional troopers on patrol who used a variety of initiatives to keep traffic moving, responded quickly to highway incidents and took appropriate enforcement action when violations were observed that threatened the safety of travelers over the Thanksgiving holiday

From Nov. 27-Dec.1, troopers from each of the 23 Maryland State Police barracks statewide focused enforcement efforts on impaired driving, aggressive

driving, speeding, distracted driving and other violations that often contribute to highway tragedies, especially during holiday seasons. Barracks also used impaired driving grant funding from the MDOT/MVA Maryland Highway Safety Office to put additional troopers on the road. These troopers will be saturating areas known to have a higher frequency of impaired driving arrests or crashes.

Over the Thanksgiving weekend, troopers responded to 2,943 calls

for service, made 119 DUI arrests, issued 4,442 citations and 4,894 warnings and made 124 criminal arrests. Troopers also investigated 409 crashes, three of which involved fatalities, during that span.

It is estimated to cost someone arrested for impaired driving about \$10,000 for legal fees, fines, lost wages and multiple other reasons. That cost is just for a simple arrest. If a crash is involved, the cost goes up exponentially.



IMPACT UPDATE

State Police Collect More Than 2,100 Pounds Of Rx Medications on National Take Back Day

(PRINCESS ANNE, MD) – The Maryland State Police wants to thank everyone who participated in the most recent National Drug Take Back event.

State police collected a total of 2,166 pounds of unwanted and/or expired prescription medications at our 23 barracks on Oct. 26. This included collecting 414 pounds of medication at the Westminster Barrack, followed by the barracks in Bel Air (249 lbs.), Prince Frederick (204 lbs.), Frederick (186 lbs.) and Rockville (183 lbs).

The event, done in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration, included law enforcement agencies from across the state and country. The event encouraged citizens to dispose of unwanted prescription drugs.

For Maryland State Police, each barrack acted as a collection station by giving citizens an opportunity to dispose of all unwanted and unused prescription drugs.

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the public about the potential for abuse



of medications.

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration, the majority of teenagers abusing prescription drugs are finding an unlimited supply in their family's medicine cabinet.

The Maryland State Police have collected a total of over 22,000 pounds of expired and unwanted prescription medications during similar events since 2014. State Police collected more than 1,900 pounds of prescription medications during a similar event in April.

As part of Maryland's combined effort to reduce opioid abuse, Maryland State Police barracks across the state have become around-the-clock drop-off locations for unused prescription medications.

No questions will be asked when deposits are made.

Residents can locate the closest Maryland State Police barrack by visiting <https://mdsp.maryland.gov/Organization/Pages/FieldOperationsBureau/allbarracks.aspx>.

The Maryland State Police is a partner in the Opioid Operational Command Center, which facilitates collaboration between state and local public health, human services, education, and public safety entities to combat the heroin and opioid crisis and its deadly impact on Maryland communities.

Before It's Too Late is the state's effort to bring awareness to this epidemic—and to mobilize resources for effective prevention, treatment, and recovery.

<https://beforeitstoolate.maryland.gov/>



IMPACT UPDATE

Investigation Leads To Arrests Of Cocaine Trafficking Organization In Carroll Co.

(WESTMINSTER, MD) — After a multi-month Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN) investigation into two cocaine trafficking organizations, the Maryland State Police Carroll County Narcotics Task Force executed multiple arrest warrants and search warrants in the Westminster area in October.

The Carroll County Narcotics Task Force is a cooperative enforcement effort between the Maryland State Police, Carroll County Sheriff's Office, the Westminster Police Department, the Carroll County State's Attorney's Office, and Homeland Security Investigations.

MCIN is Governor Larry Hogan's criminal justice strategy, coordinated at the local, state, and federal levels targeting criminal networks.

As a result of the investigation, the following suspects were arrested:

- **Maurice Rashaad Garrison**, 26, of Baltimore, Maryland. Garrison was arrested on October 20, 2019 in Westminster, on an arrest warrant stemming from an indictment charging Garrison with distribution of cocaine. Garrison was also charged with two counts of conspiracy to distribute cocaine.
- **Amanda Marie Knight**, 27, of Westminster, Maryland. Knight



was arrested on October 20, 2019 in Westminster on an arrest warrant stemming from an indictment charging her with distribution of cocaine and one count of conspiracy to distribute cocaine.

The investigation resulted in the discovery of additional narcotics. As a result of two search and seizure warrants served in the Bishop's Garth Apartment Complex, **Mark James Geise**, 35, of Westminster, Maryland, was arrested and charged with possession of heroin and drug paraphernalia.

Additional arrests are anticipated in the near future. Troopers are actively continuing this investigation.

This investigation was a coordinated effort between the Maryland State Police Carroll County Drug Task Force with assistance from the Carroll County

State's Attorney's Office, Maryland State Police Special Tactical Assault Team Element, MSP Gang Enforcement Unit, Westminster Barrack Uniformed Patrol, and Maryland State Apprehension Team, under the Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network.

The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention provides grant funding and support to MCIN member sites to identify, disrupt, and dismantle criminal organizations through inter-agency collaboration and data sharing to make Maryland safer.

Maryland State Police was assisted in this investigation by numerous law enforcement agencies including Homeland Security Investigations, United States Marshals, Carroll County Sheriff's Office and Westminster Police Department.



IMPACT UPDATE

Completing 2020 Census Forms Can Aid Federal Public Safety Funding for Maryland

(PIKESVILLE, MD) — While the U.S. Constitution requires the nation to conduct a national count of all living people, commonly known as a Census, every 10 years, it impacts the states in many important ways.

The Census determines representation in Congress and impacts local legislative districts. The population count is also the basis for funding critical programs and services and assists local decision-making for economic development, school construction and transportation projects as well as public health, public safety and emergency planning.

Every year, the federal government allocates

more than \$675 billion in funding based on Census data. From a public safety perspective, consider the following funding nationally from Fiscal Year 2015 alone:

- \$1.93 billion for crime victim assistance.
- \$1.72 billion for block grants for prevention and treatment of substance abuse.
- \$475 million for block grants for community health services
- \$94 million for family violence prevention and services/ grants for battered women's shelters
- \$49 billion for safe and drug free schools



and communities state grants

- \$47.6 billion for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention allocations to the states.

Consider this: Every Marylander not counted in the Census costs the state approximately \$18,250 over 10 years. This equates to the state losing \$26.6 billion (based on historical U.S. Census undercount).

Completing your Census form ensures Maryland families, neighbors and communities receive the support they need to live, work, play and grow.

Filling out your Census form is easy and can be done in three ways, by mail, phone — and for the first time ever — online.

Remember, the U.S. Census Bureau must keep all information confidential, including a resident's citizenship, income and other sensitive personal data. All Census information is private and protected by law in Title 13 of the U.S. Code with violations punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a \$250,000 fine.

For more information on the Census in Maryland, visit census.maryland.gov.

The 2020 Census is accessible for everyone.



respond
online



respond by
phone



mail a paper
questionnaire



respond
in person

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